

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A backlight unit has a linear light source for generating a light source light and a light guide plate. The light guide plate has an end side and a broad side, and a light amount reducing member for reducing the amount of the light source light. The light amount reducing member is capable of transmitting light and is made of a material having a greater attenuation coefficient than that of the light guide plate. The light source light is input to the end side, is propagated through the light guide plate, and is output through the broad side. The light amount reducing member is provided at a joint portion of the end side and the broad side and portions neighboring the joint portion of the light guide plate.